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It is all too often the case that a conscientious worker connected with an organization for years is suddenly removed and unless the records are in good shape the past becomes more or less a myth. The Russell Sage Foundation deserves the thanks of child helping organizations in this country in that it has made possible the preparation and publication of this volume. If the superintendents of children's institutions would read this volume carefully and profit by it, there would be a big change in the character of their annual reports. There is, of course, a limit beyond which it is impossible for an organization to go in multiplying records, but no organization is justified in caring for children unless they have some record showing the antecedents of the children, their physical and mental condition when received, their history while in the institution, and a record of them since they were placed out. Some of the blanks proposed seem unduly elaborate, but when one sits down to decide what question could be omitted without detracting from the value of the records, he is troubled to make a start. Not only are forms suggested for proper record keeping but cards in present use by a large number of different organizations are included in the volume.

For many workers perhaps the two most valuable chapters are those on methods and devices for making records available and on abstracting the material for annual reports. Many social workers, besides those engaged with children, could read these two chapters with profit. A short bibliography is included and the volume is well indexed. One would receive the impression from reading this volume that the author had not only made a careful theoretical study of the field, but had been confronted with some of the problems through actual work.

WILLIAM B. BAILEY.

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*"Statistics Relating to Crime in Chicago."* By Edith Abbott, Ph.D. 88 pp. Reprinted from Report of a City Council on Crime of the City of Chicago. Chicago School of Civics and Philanthropy, 1915.

In this statistical study of crime in Chicago, Dr. Abbott had done a good piece of work. The figures had to be collected from four different sources and when all the available material was collected the data were still lacking for a complete study of the social status of the offenders. The report is divided into two parts: the first covering the statistics of arrest and trial of offenders, and the second their social condition. There are altogether thirty-nine statistical tables besides a considerable number included in the eight appendices. These tables are well planned and give both absolute numbers and percentages in almost every case. In addition to the tables and accompanying text, there are two general summaries giving the main lessons to be gained from a study of the statistical tables. It is apparent that over one half of the persons brought before the courts of Chicago are discharged without conviction. The waste from such a large number of unnecessary arrests is apparent. Only about 3 per cent. of the total number of persons arrested are sentenced to prison. Out of 109,711 persons arrested in 1913, 2,076 were sentenced to the County Jail

or House of Correction and 2,182 were held for the grand jury. Over 80 per cent. of the commitments to the House of Correction were for non-payment of fines. About 60 per cent. of the persons arrested are under 30 years of age. A careful study of the statistics seems to show that the foreign born population is no more criminal than the native born when proper weight is given to the differences in sex and age distribution.

It is to be hoped that this careful study of criminal statistics in Chicago by Dr. Abbott will lead to the publication by that city of a series of annual reports which will render unnecessary another study of this nature.

W. B. B.

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*Negro Year Book—An Annual Encyclopedia of the Negro, 1914–1915.* By Monroe N. Work, 443 pages. 35 cents. Negro Year Book Publishing Company, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

The Negro Year Book for the period 1914–1915 fills the need for a comprehensive presentation of facts about the interests and progress of the negro race in America. It is a permanent record of the essential historical facts relating to negro population, health, religious affiliation, education, biography and social organization. The extensive bibliography at the end of the volume should be especially useful. Mr. Work is to be commended for having brought together such a convenient and useful collection of data.

E. W. KOPF.